

## DISTANCE LEARNING

### READ-A-BOOK PROGRAM

This distance learning self-study program allows early childhood professionals to earn credit for training clock hours by reading children's literature and books on early childhood education and child development. The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Development, a part of the Virginia Department of Social Services, collaborated with the Library of Virginia to place sets of books in each of the 350 public libraries across Virginia. The Read-A-Book Program focuses on the importance of incorporating children's literature across the curriculum, reading to and with young children daily, understanding early brain development, fostering language and literacy development, and communicating successfully with young children. This program currently offers two book report options for obtaining credit for training clock hours. You are encouraged to choose one or both to receive credit. You may read and report on more than one book, and be eligible to receive credit for training clock hours for each new book report submitted to VDSS for grading. All book report materials are free. A \$10.00 processing fee will be due when you submit materials for grading.

#### Option 1: Reading Children's Literature Books with Children

Option 1 requires you to read two children's literature books to your children and then develop a book report for each book that describes the activities and projects you developed to support the story or theme of the book. You may choose from the infant and toddler books placed in each public library in Virginia (titles listed on page 6 of the Read-A-Book Program booklet), or you may choose to use two of your own favorite children's books.

#### Option 2: Reading Professional Books

Option 2 requires you to read one of the professional books listed in the Read-A-Book Program booklet on page 3, and then complete the corresponding book report. Each Virginia public library has at least one copy of the professional development books listed in the Read-A-Book Program booklet.

#### To Participate in Either Option

- Download and print the Read-A-Book Program booklet, which includes book lists, instructions, and all forms required for participation in Option 1, and the list of professional development books and special instructions to participate in Option 2, by visiting the VDSS Web site at: <http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/readbook.cgi>,  
or
- Request the Read-A-Book Program booklet via email at: [read.a.book@dss.virginia.gov](mailto:read.a.book@dss.virginia.gov). If you request the program booklet by email, please specify whether you would like to receive the program booklet via email or by U.S. mail,  
or
- Request the Read-A-Book Program booklet via U.S. mail using the form below.
- **Librarians do not have the Read-A-Book Program materials.**

*Cut Out or Photocopy*

#### Read-A-Book Program Booklet Request Form

##### Mailing Address

Read-A-Book Program  
 Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Development  
 Virginia Department of Social Services  
 801 East Main Street, 8th Floor  
 Richmond, VA 23219-2901

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address Where Materials Should Be Sent: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number (including area code): (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

## DISTANCE LEARNING

### VIDEO TRAINING SERIES

The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) offers two video-based training programs with study guides and testing materials. These programs are self-paced and child care professionals may earn four, six, or eight clock hours of training credit upon successful completion of the assessment materials.

#### To Participate

Child care professionals borrow the DVDs/videotapes and receive copies of the study guides and test materials from one of the eight regional licensing offices listed below. There is no cost for the study guides or testing materials. A ten dollar (\$10.00) processing fee per person is charged when submitting the completed assessments for grading.

To apply to receive credit for participation in either video series, each individual must complete the assessment materials for each program. Individuals must receive a passing grade to be awarded credit for training clock hours. Detailed instructions for participation are included with each study guide.

**1 – DSS 101 - The Whole Child - A Caregiver's Guide to the First Five Years (TWC)** is a video series production developed by WTVS Detroit and the Merrill-Palmer Institute at Wayne State University in 1998. It is based on the textbook of the same name written by Joanne Hendrick, Professor of Early Childhood Education Emerita at the University of Oklahoma.

**2 – The Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers (PITC)** was developed by WestEd and the California Department of Education. A team of experts in child development, child care, adult education, and print and video production was assembled to work with national and state advisors to create this video production. The goal of the program was to develop meaningful training materials based on sound principles and proven practices. The materials were developed for both center-based and family day home providers and focus on caring for infants and toddlers.

To reserve the DVDs/videotapes for participation in either video series training program, please call your regional licensing office listed below.

Central Licensing Office: (804) 662-9743  
 Fairfax Licensing Office: (703) 934-1505  
 Eastern Licensing Office: (757) 491-3977  
 Valley Licensing Office: (540) 332-2330  
 Peninsula Licensing Office: (757) 247-8020  
 Piedmont Licensing Office: (540) 204-9623  
 Northern Licensing Office: (540) 347-6345  
 Western Licensing Office: (276) 676-5655

### CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT ONLINE COURSE

An online course called Child Abuse and Neglect: Recognizing, Reporting, and Responding for Educators, is available for child care providers. It was developed by VDSS with VISSTA and the Department of Education for teacher licensure. Successful completion of this course provides 2 clock hours of training credit. The course may be accessed at [www.vcu.edu/vissta/training/va\\_teachers](http://www.vcu.edu/vissta/training/va_teachers) and all are welcome to take this course.

### NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR PLAYGROUND SAFETY (NPPS) ONLINE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NPPS offers online courses that target the needs of child care providers. Listed below are two options.

**Early Childhood Outdoor Play Inspectors (ECOPI)** is an interactive online course that gives child care providers, licensing consultants, administrators, and professionals from the health and safety disciplines the knowledge and understanding needed to inspect the outdoor play area for safety. Through pictures, discussion, readings, and assignments, participants will gain the experience needed to inspect the early childhood outdoor play environment. The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) recognizes the ECOPI certificate to meet the Physical Environment 9.B.07 criteria.

- Length of Course – once coursework is begun, participants have up to four weeks to complete the course, which is self-paced
- Clock Hours – 12 hours
- CEUs – 1.2

**Playground Supervision for Child Care Providers** is an online course that gives child care providers the opportunity to learn supervision practices in an outdoor play environment. Through instructional videos, pictures, and written information, providers will learn new supervision techniques to implement in their facilities.

- Length of Course – Once coursework is begun, participants have up to two weeks to complete the course, which is self-paced.
- Clock Hours – 1 hour
- CEUs – 0.1

To register:

Visit <http://www.playgroundsafety.org/training/online/index.htm>

For more information:

Contact the National Program for Playground Safety as listed below.

[www.playgroundsafety.org](http://www.playgroundsafety.org)

Phone: (800) 554-PLAY (7529)

Fax: (319) 273-7308

Email: [playground-safety@uni.edu](mailto:playground-safety@uni.edu)